

Critical Studies

Elizabeth Blackadder & Christine McArthur

Elizabeth Blackadder

- **Dame Elizabeth Violet Blackadder** (born 24 September 1931), is a Scottish painter and printmaker.
- She is the first woman to be elected to both the Royal Scottish Academy and the Royal Academy.
- In 1962 she began teaching at Edinburgh College of Art where she continued until her retirement in 1986.
- Blackadder worked in a variety of media such as oil paints, watercolour, drawing and printmaking. In her still life paintings and drawings, she considers space between objects carefully. She also paints portraits and landscapes but her later work contains mainly her cats and flowers.
- Her work can be seen at the Tate Gallery, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Elizabeth Blackadder



Elizabeth Blackadder

Task: Watch the YouTube clip

- In the Studio:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Ff_dZVPzE8

Questions

1. When was Elizabeth Blackadder born?
2. Where was she born?
3. Where did she teach?
4. What media did Blackadder work in?
5. Where can you see Blackadder's work?

Research Task

1. Select your favourite piece of artwork by Elizabeth Blackadder.
2. Find the name, date and medium of the work.
3. Give two reasons why you chose this piece of work (use art & design terminology).

Christine McArthur

- **Christine McArthur** was born in Kirkintilloch, near Glasgow in 1953 and studied at The Glasgow School of Art between 1971 and 1976, which included a post-diploma year.
- After graduating she taught and produced book illustrations until the demand for her work enabled her to paint full time. Her early work was primarily in oil and she became well known for her large scale still life paintings on canvas. In the late 1980s she began to work in oil pastel and watercolour but more recently she has reverted to oil, as well as acrylic and collage.
- Christine McArthur was awarded Scottish Education Department travelling scholarships in 1975 and 1976 and was elected a member of the Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts in 1990. In 1995 she was elected a member of the Royal Scottish Society of Painters in Watercolour. In 1997 John Lewis commissioned four large murals - each 6ft x 15ft - for the Glasgow store in 1999. In 2002 she received a commission from John Lewis for murals for the extension to their Peter Jones store, Sloane Square, London.

Christine McArthur



Christine McArthur

Task: Watch the YouTube clip

- Great Scots in Isolation:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ryVoLbkp6o>

Questions

1. Where was Christine McArthur born?
2. When was she born?
3. Where did she study?
4. What media did McArthur work in?
5. In 1997 which store commissioned four large murals from McArthur?

Research Task

1. Select your favourite piece of artwork by Christine McArthur.
2. Find the name, date and medium of the work.
3. Give two reasons why you chose this piece of work (use art & design terminology).